

Solar challenges and opportunities:

Challenges:

- 1) Lack of manufacturing capability.
- 2) Lack of integration with global value chains.
- 3) High investment cost for individual buyers who are dependent on existing government electricity infrastructure restricting demand.
- 4) Low production and capacity of batteries for storage and to provide electricity during non solar generation hours.
- 5) Poor solar service (after sales) capability.
- 6) Low R&D spending in developing newer solar technologies.
- 7) Raw material mining limitations of metals.
- 8) Low behavioural change towards individual solar installations.
- 9) Less technology transfer from developed countries.
- 10) Low skilled labour availability.
- 11) Poor industry academia connect.

Opportunities:

- 1) Government schemes and subsidies for manufacturing, solar panels use (kusum), viability gap funding, industrial corridors, tool hubs etc.
- 2) Low solar energy generation costs.
- 3) Remote hamlets.
- 4) Growing recycling technology and economy which allows cheaper and abundant raw material acquisition.
- 5) Mega solar parks.
- 6) Government renewable energy targets.
- 7) Renewable energy purchase obligations to DISCOMs.
- 8) Hybrid power plants with wind etc.
- 9) New academic industry partnerships.
- 10) Government skilling programmes are trying to focus on solar skill generation.
- 11) R&D in new solar technologies and manufacturing.
- 12) Electricity supply to other countries like neighbouring countries through interconnected grids opens new markets.
- 13) Continuously increasing energy usage per capita across the world.
- 14) Electric vehicles, robots, smartphones etc new devices consuming electricity increasingly.
- 15) Green bonds, futures, renewable energy exchanges etc attract open new investments. They also encourage buying of solar energy with ease.